

2003-2004 ANNUAL REPORT

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**Illinois Department
of Transportation**

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ILLINOIS TRANSPORTATION SAFETY, INNOVATION AND EXCELLENCE

MISSION

Provide safe, cost-effective transportation for Illinois that enhances the quality of life, promotes economic prosperity, and meets environmental needs.

IDOT PRIORITIES

SAFETY – Improved safety on roads and bridges is a priority to IDOT. Through our Work Zone Safety Initiative and “Click It or Ticket” programs, Illinois motorists are traveling on safer roads and bridges.

MOBILITY – Reliable mobility on roads and bridges is key to Illinois’ economy. With federal and state funds, IDOT developed long-term plans to provide better pavements and structures on roads and bridges to improve mobility. We have expanded highways and created better railroad infrastructure to reduce roadway and railway congestion to promote faster travel times and avoid freight delays.

PRESERVATION – Preservation of the multi-modal transportation system is critical to the future of Illinois’ roads and bridges. We aggressively pursued federal earmarks to secure funding for major transportation projects. State funding has helped us reconstruct and replace roadways and bridges.

EFFICIENCY – Streamlined project delivery to ensure efficiency to meet growing budgetary challenges. We have instituted many reforms within IDOT to eliminate duplicative work, improve statewide coordination of projects and reform procurement processes.

OUTREACH – Improved internal and external communications is key to building relationships with the community, local elected officials, businesses and other transportation stakeholders. Internally, we have redefined our communications efforts with an enhanced Intranet to update and engage the IDOT team. Externally, we have updated our website to make information more useful to the public. Initiatives such as Opportunity Fairs, Resource Centers, and Ask the Secretary forums are just snapshots of our new direction.

We and my daddy used
to sit for a long time in
the woods together, those
were the best times I can
remember. All I do now
is sit by myself thinking
about my dad. He was
killed this past Memorial
Day weekend while working
in a construction zone.
Someone ran my daddy
over and took him away.
Forever and now I realize

Illinois Department
of Transportation

Under the leadership of Governor Rod R. Blagojevich, the Illinois Department of Transportation in 2003 and 2004 has significantly improved its organization, programs and service delivery in every aspect of its operation.

Many of the department's major accomplishments in recent months have saved taxpayers' money, employees' time and improved customer service. Many are significant first steps in broader strategies to improve in the years ahead.

IDOT's delivery of the FY 2003 Highway Program (96.9 percent rate of accomplishment) and the FY 2004 Highway Program, despite staff reductions of more than 8 percent since 2002, represent solid achievements among IDOT's many efforts to lead the way toward improved efficiency and effectiveness in Illinois government. These gains represent a solid foundation to help springboard our efforts in 2005 to further improve the way we do business and deliver transportation services every day.

IDOT took significant steps in 2003 and 2004 to ensure that project selection is fair and balanced throughout Illinois and that projects are programmed based on demonstrated needs rather than political clout. IDOT's outreach to community organizations and regional leaders throughout Illinois has encouraged additional local input into decisions on transportation improvements. The department also has taken effective steps to include more small contractors in statewide bidding processes by holding numerous Opportunity Fairs for small and disadvantaged vendors across Illinois to help them compete for state contracts. Greater competition for state contracts spurs job growth and produces more bang for the taxpayers' buck in Illinois.

In addition, IDOT worked closely in support of Governor Blagojevich through the 2003 passage and promotion of a primary safety belt law in Illinois that is expected to save hundreds of lives each year as more and more motorists take the time to properly buckle themselves and their children into safety belts. As safety belt usage increases, Illinois will net tens of millions of dollars in additional federal funds for safety improvements.

At the same time, IDOT has launched a massive statewide campaign to reduce crashes, injuries and deaths in highway work zones. Work zone designs, lane markings and informational signs have been improved, and the department's Orange Ribbon safety campaign is underway to remind motorists of their personal responsibility for safety as they travel through work zones in the months ahead.

Illinois and IDOT face significant revenue challenges in the months and years ahead. The immediate future of the state's road and bridge construction program depends on adequate federal funding for Illinois. IDOT continues to fight for Illinois' fair share of federal funding in legislation now under consideration by Congress.

In FY 2005, our overriding goal at IDOT is to continue the good work we have begun and provide even stronger leadership and results on behalf of Illinois transportation in the months and years ahead.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Timothy W. Martin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Timothy W. Martin
Secretary, Illinois Department of Transportation

THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FUNCTIONS AND ROLE

IDOT is a state agency that is primarily responsible for maintaining the state's network of roads and bridges and administering grants for rail, airports and public transportation.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

IDOT is headquartered in Springfield and has nine district offices throughout the state. The divisions and offices coordinate with the district office to ensure the successful delivery of road and bridge projects. Each district office is responsible for planning, building and maintaining the roads and bridges in its area.

GOVERNOR



SECRETARY



DIVISIONS



OFFICES



DISTRICT OFFICES